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AUTHOR	Eron, Leonard D., Ed.; And Others
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ABSTRACT

Contributions to this collection come from the work of the Commission on Violence and Youth established by the American Psychological Association (APA). The research reviews, discussions of implications, and recommendations presented here were summarized in a summary report, "Violence and Youth: Psychology's Response," issued by the APA in 1993. The collection explores the ways in which violent behavior develops and is learned, emphasizing the social and cultural factors that help shape the process. Populations that are especially susceptible to becoming perpetrators or victims of violence, especially members of ethnic and social minorities, are discussed. The 19 selections are grouped in 6 major areas: (1) the etiology of violence from developmental and sociocultural perspectives; (2) the experience of violence among ethnic groups; (3) experience of violence among selected vulnerable populations of youth; (4) societal influences, such as guns, gangs, and the media, on youth violence; (5) prevention and intervention strategies; and (6) research and public policy recommendations. Interpersonal violence is one of the most prevalent and socially transmittable health risks Americans face, but it is by no means an inevitable, random, or unchangeable problem. References follow each chapter. (SLD)

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